

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 00223 170952Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 IO-13 AGRE-00 EB-08
USIA-06 COME-00 TRSE-00 NSC-05 SS-15 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 H-01 HA-05 PM-05 DODE-00 /098 W
-----063807 172132Z /70

R 170920Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9026
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 0223

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS 1, 4 DIMPTD
TAGS: EPAP EALR EAGR EAID VM
SUBJECT: SRV ANTICIPATES 1978 FOOD NEEDS

1. MADAME MINH, A RANKING OFFICIAL IN THE VIETNAMESE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HAS PROVIDED AN INTERMEDIATE SOURCE WITH THE FOLLOWING SRV ASSEMBLED DATA ON FOOD PRODUCTION AND NEEDS FOR VIET NAM IN 1978;

- (A) TARGET PRODUCTION OF PADDY OR EQUIVALENT FOODS;
16 - 16.5 MILLION TONS.
- (B) PER CAPITA FOOD REQUIREMENT AS EXPRESSED IN KILOGRAMS OF PADDY OR PADDY EQUIVALENT: 276
- (C) POPULATION OF THE SRV: 51, 500, 000.
- (D) NATIONWIDE CONSUMPTION DURING 1978: 14.2 MILLION TONS.
- (E) RICE TO BE RESERVED FOR SEED USAGE: 700,000 TONS.

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PAGE 02 VIENTI 00223 170952Z

- (F) PADDY OR PADDY EQUIVALENT TO BE LOST THROUGH CROP DESTRUCTION: 1.15 MILLION TONS.
- (G) RICE TO BE CONVERTED INTO GRAIN ALCOHOL, BEER ETC.: 500,000 TONS.
- (H) PADDY OR PADDY EQUIVALENT TO BE USED AS ANIMAL FEED: 2.2 - 2.5 MILLION TONS.

2. THE SRV THUS COMPUTES ITS PADDY OR PADDY EQUIVALENT NEED FOR 1978 TO BE 18.55 - 19.05 MILLION TONS, LEAVING A SHORTFALL OR APPROXIMATELY 2.55 MILLION TONS OF PADDY OR PADDY EQUIVALENT, OR APPROXIMATELY 1.6 MILLION TONS OF RICE.

3. THE SRV EXPECTS TO RECEIVE RICE OR RICE EQUIVALENT FOOD AID AMOUNTING TO 600,000 TONS FROM "SOCIALIST" COUNTRIES; 100,000 TONS FROM UN AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND 400,000 TONS FROM WESTERN NATIONS. THE SRV THEREFORE ANTICIPATES A SHORTFALL OF 500,000 TONS AFTER AID IS ACCOUNTED FOR.

4. THE VIETNAMESE OFFICIAL STRESSED THAT THE SRV HAS NO FOOD RESERVES TO HELP MEET THIS SHORTFALL.
ROBERTS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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